

A 2000 announcement by the U.S. Department of Agriculture that it would stop buying meat from downed cows reflects the growing consensus — even among livestock industry and government officials — that the marketing and slaughter of downed animals is unacceptable.

"Downed" refers to animals toosick or injured even to stand.

The Farm Sanctuary has petitioned the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals. Downed animals arriving at a slaughterhouse suffer terrible cruelty. There are also health risks to humans. In addition to possible ___ bacterial contamination, some downed animals may be afflicted with a form of BSE (Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy or

"Mad Cow Disease"), a disease which has been linked to a fatal human illness (CID or Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease).

You can help. Please be kind · enough to grant petition 98P-0151/CP1 to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals. Please Consider in addition to the human health dangers the following:

- Animals too sick or injured even to stand should not be allowed to enter the human food chain.
- V Downed animals are typically pushed with tractors or dragged with chains — inhumane processes which cause injuries ranging from bruises and abrasions to broken bones and -torn ligaments.
- Downed animals comprise a very small percentage of animals

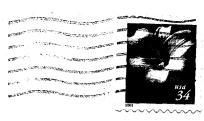
slaughtered, and prohibiting their marketing will cause no undue economic hardship. Industry experts have estimated that 90% percent of downed animals can be prevented with this appear Industry experts have estimated better care and handling. Removing the market for downed animals will provide best to Stof an incentive to industry to the slaughter prevent downed animals in the downed amin first place.

To, U.S. FD1 Rockville n Dear Sie and de la

DOCKET NO. 98P-0151/CPI PLEASE LET ME HEAR FROM YOU. I

MYJ Arun Kantharia 128 Columbia Ave. Nutley, NJ 07110-2525





U.S. Food and Drug Administration Dockets Management Branch 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm # 1061 ROCK VILLE. Md. 20852

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